FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

REPORTING OFFICE	OFFICE OF ORIGIN	DATE	INVESTIGATIVE PERIOD
MEMPHIS	MEMPHIS	9/10/69	3/3/69 - 9/2/69

TITLE OF CASE	REPORT MADE BY	TYPED BY
INVADERS	SA BURL F. JOHNSON	wp

CHARACTER OF CASE

RACIAL MATTERS

REFERENCE

Memphis airtel to Bureau dated 3/26/69.

See Serials 1490, 1502 A+B, Dom. Intel

LEADS

MEMPHIS

AT MEMPHIS, TENNESSEE

Will continue to follow and report pertinent activities of the Invaders.

ACCOMPLISHMENTS CLAIMED ☐ NONE						ACQUIT-TALS	CASE HAS BEEN:
CONVIC.	AUTO.	FUG.	FINES	SAVINGS	RECOVERIES		PENDING OVER ONE YEAR ☐ YES ☐ NO PENDING PROSECUTION OVER SIX MONTHS ☐ YES ☐ NO

APPROVED SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE

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COVER PAGE

ME 157-1067

INFORMANTS

Identity of Source	File Where Located
ME T-1 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1202, 1248, 1354, and instant report
ME T-2 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1027, 1041, 1044, 1045, 1054, 1055, 1067, 1103, 1105, 1111, 1120, 1117, 1119, 1122, 1127, 1175, 1176, 1178, 1202, 1220, 1226, 1229, 1230, 1231, 1236, 1243, 1248, 1268, and instant report
ME T-3 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1202
ME T-4 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1202
ME T-5 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1354
ME T-6 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1354
ME T-7 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1354
ME T-8 is [redacted]	ME 157-1067-1488

ADMINISTRATIVE

Copies of this report are being furnished to the U. S. Secret Service and U. S. Attorney, both Memphis, Tennessee, as well as regional offices of the Military Intelligence agencies, pursuant to Bureau policy in furnishing information of this type to those agencies.

This report is classified "Confidential" because it contains information from informants and sources of continuing value whose identity if revealed might compromise their effectiveness and adversely affect the security of the United States.

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

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Copy to:
1 - U. S. Attorney, Memphis, Tennessee
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1 - 111th MI Group, Nashville, Tennessee
1 - OSI, Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama

Report of: SA BURL F. JOHNSON
Office: Memphis
Date: September 10, 1969

Field Office File No.: ME 157-1067
Bureau File No.: 157-8460

Title: INVADERS

Character: RACIAL MATTERS

Synopsis: The Invaders were originally founded in the summer of 1967. In the fall of 1967 the Invaders assumed the name of Black Organizing Project (BOP), with subsidiary cells. In the spring of 1968 the BOP degenerated into a group of approximately 30 to 35 young blacks who adopted a philosophy of hatred of the white race, hatred of the capitalistic system of government, and hatred of constituted authority. In the summer of 1968 the Invaders became the dominant group of the BOP, while other subsidiary cells disbanded or ceased to exist. Since June, 1968, approximately 30 members of the Invaders have committed various local crimes, and over 25 have been convicted for these offenses. The resulting publicity given the criminal activities of the Invaders has weakened the influence of the Invaders. In June, 1969, the Invaders became a confused organization, with no finances and poor leadership, and the Prime Minister, LANCE WATSON, had reportedly become disenchanted with his leadership position. In June, 1969, the Invaders headquarters was padlocked because the rent was unpaid. In August, 1969, the Invaders were reported to have, for all practical purposes, ceased to exist during the past three months. LANCE WATSON and other members of the Invaders participated in demonstrations sponsored by the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence at Forrest City, Arkansas, during the summer of 1969. WATSON led a "march against fear" from West Memphis to Little Rock, Arkansas, in August, 1969.

-P-

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DETAILS:

I. ORGANIZATION

A. Origin

A militant black nationalist group of young Memphis, Tennessee, Negroes, now known as Invaders, was originally formed in the summer and fall of 1967 by three Memphis Negroes, COBY VERNON SMITH, JOHN BURRELL SMITH, and CHARLES LAVERNE CABBAGE. During the fall of 1967 and spring of 1968 it assumed the name of Black Organizing Project (BOP), with subsidiary cells known as Afro-American Brotherhood (AAB), at Owen College; Black Student Association (BSA) at Memphis State University; LeMoyne College Intercollegiate Chapter of the NAACP (LIC, NAACP) at LeMoyne College; Invaders, primarily consisting of high school students and school dropouts; and City Organizers, consisting of young non-student adults; all having a combined average membership of about 100. The ostensible purpose was to create pride in black identity, to teach black culture and black history, and to obtain employment for young blacks.

(ME T-1, 5/7/69)

B. Headquarters

The headquarters of the Invaders was located at 271 Vance Street, Memphis, Tennessee, from December 18, 1968, to June 9, 1969. The building at this address was rented in the name of the "Community Organization Club," and the lease was signed for a period from December 23, 1968, to June 23, 1969.

(ME T-2, 8/22/69)

On August 22, 1969, Lieutenant E. H. ARKIN, Intelligence Bureau, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that on June 9, 1969, personnel of the Intelligence Bureau, Memphis Police Department, observed that the building located at 271 Vance Street, Memphis, Tennessee, had been padlocked, that the windows had been boarded up, and that no visible activity on the part of the Invaders at this address was observed.

C. Officers and Staff

As of May 13, 1969, the officers and staff of the Invaders were as follows:

Prime Minister	LANCE "Sweet Willie Wine" WATSON
Chairman	LOUIS "The Lock" WELCH
Petty Treasurer	JAMES PEGUES
Business Manager	DONALD PIGFORD
Secretary	CACUEATUH UNDRE SMITH
Assistant Secretary	BRENDA MAJORS
Assistant Secretary	GWENDOLYN WHITE
Minister of Defense	MELVIN SMITH

Former officers MAURICE LEWIS and ROY LEE TURKS were inducted into the United States Army in late April and early May, 1969. The Board of Directors has ceased to exist. Recent Board member COBY VERNON SMITH, 2240 Brown Avenue, Memphis, recently graduated from Southwestern College, Memphis, and has gone to New York City to work at the Westbury City College, Westbury, New York. CHARLES LAVERNE CABBAGE, a former officer, was on May 21, 1969, sentenced to four and one-half years in Federal prison for violation of the Selective Service Act.

JOHN BURRELL SMITH, a former officer, is currently on bond appealing his State conviction in which he was charged with inciting a riot at Carver High School, Memphis, Tennessee, in May, 1967.

(ME T-1, ME T-2, ME T-8, all 8/25/69)

LOUIS WELCH has gone to Atlanta, Georgia, and allegedly lives with a relative at 5231 Cross, Atlanta, Georgia.

(ME T-1, 8/25/69)

D. Finances

The Invaders bank account at the Tri-State Bank, Memphis, Tennessee, contains less than $100. Checks written on this account have been countersigned by LANCE WATSON and DONALD PIGFORD. Invaders Secretary CACHEATUH UNDRE SMITH has lost the bank book.

[redacted]8/25/69)

The black adult groups, such as Rev. EZEKIEL BELL, President, Memphis NAACP Chapter, and Rev. H. RALPH JACKSON, Director of the AME Church, Minimum Salary Division, Memphis, Tennessee, both of whom head the Community on the Move for Equality (COME), a Negro ministerial group which has paid the Invaders rent since January 1, 1969, have ceased giving the Invaders money. The Invaders bank account at the Tri-State Bank is depleted.

(ME T-1, ME T-2, 8/25/69)

E. Membership

Since June, 1968, approximately 30 Invaders have committed various local crimes, including arson, robbery, larceny, forgery, prostitution, narcotics violations, and shooting a police officer, as well as inciting to riot in public schools. Over 25 have been convicted for these offenses, most of them making bond and appealing convictions. These arrests and the attendant publicity have weakened the influence of the Invaders and caused them to be less vocal and less publicly contentious. In May, 1969, the membership of the Invaders was estimated to be 40, with only about 20 hardcore members.

(ME T-1, ME T-2, 5/7/69)

On August 22, 1969, [redacted] furnished the following list of current and former members of the Invaders, most of whom have been involved in criminal activity. This list includes the pending dates for trials in which the Invaders are involved, and whether the member is free on bond or in jail:

1. CARL STEPHEN ARMSTRONG - Docket # 18739 and 20491

ARMSTRONG is currently out on bond awaiting trial on November 11, 1969, for disorderly conduct. ARMSTRONG has been inactive in the Invaders since June 26, 1969.

2. CHARLES STEVEN BALLARD

BALLARD is residing at 1830 Kansas, Memphis, with his parents and has not participated in Invader activities since he was released from jail in May, 1969.

3. JOE CALVIN BANKS - Docket # 20220

On February 14, 1969, BANKS was indicted by the Shelby County Grand Jury for carrying a pistol. BANKS is currently out on bond awaiting trial for this charge, trial date not set. BANKS has not participated in any Invader activities for the year of 1969.

4. BEN HEARD BERRY

No information has been received regarding BERRY since his release from the Shelby County Penal Farm on May 24, 1969.

5. LEROY BLEDSOE

BLEDSOE is in the Shelby County Jail awaiting trial for second degree burglary; trial set for October 6, 1969.

6. JOE LEE BURNS, SR.

The last information received regarding BURNS, SR., indicated he was arrested by the Secret Service for a postal theft.

7. JOE LEE BURNS, JR.

BURNS, JR., is currently active in the Invaders. On August 22, 1969, he joined LANCE "Sweet Willie Wine" WATSON and marched to Little Rock, Arkansas. BURNS, JR., has no criminal cases pending.

8. CHARLES LAVERNE CABBAGE

CABBAGE is now serving 11 months and 29 days in the Shelby County Penal Farm for carrying a pistol. He has also been convicted of draft evasion.

9. RICHARD LAWRENCE CABBAGE

CABBAGE is serving five years for assault to murder in the State Penitentiary.

10. BERT AUTSIN CURTIS - Docket # 16847

CURTIS is in the Memphis area and frequents the Beale and Hernando areas. He has had no activity with the Invaders recently.

11. ANITA LYNN CUSTARD - Docket # 20534

CUSTARD was indicted on March 4, 1969, but made bond on February 24, 1969. Trial date has not been set.

12. EARL T. DAVIS, JR. - Docket # 14860

DAVIS was convicted and served 30 days in the Shelby County Penal Farm for larceny and receiving stolen property. Although DAVIS does frequent the Hawaiian Isle, he has broken off considerably with the Invaders.

13. LARRY LARUE DAVIS

DAVIS is currently out on an appeal bond for participating in a riot. DAVIS has not been involved with the Invaders since his release from jail on April 3, 1969. DAVIS' last known address was 258 West Fay Street, Memphis.

14. THOMAS EDWARD DAVIS

DAVIS is currently a fugitive from the Memphis Police Department for forgery and uttering documents. He was last known to be in Kansas City, Missouri.

15. JOHN HENRY FERGUSON

FERGUSON is in the Shelby County Jail awaiting the results of his appeal to the charge of participating in a riot. He was returned to the Shelby County Jail from the Shelby County

Penal Farm on June 28, 1969. FERGUSON has been sentenced to five years for participating in a riot.

16. WILLIE LEE FINNIE

FINNIE has not participated in any Invader activities since July of 1968.

17. JOHNNY FRIERSON

FRIERSON is currently out on bond for assault and battery; trial date set for November 19, 1969. FRIERSON frequents the Black Arcade on Florida Street.

18. ALBERT FRISON

FRISON is in the Shelby County Jail awaiting trial for first degree murder; trial date set for September 26, 1969.

19. FRANK GERALDS

GERALDS is currently serving 11 months and 29 days in the Shelby County Penal Farm for fraudulent use of a credit card.

20. JAMES EDWARD GRIFFIN

GRIFFIN has no pending criminal charges and has not participated in any acgivities with the Invaders since the April 4th Memorial March, 1969.

21. HORACE HALL

HALL is currently serving one year in the Shelby County Penal Farm for shooting in a building.

22. CHARLES MACK HARDIN

HARDIN has not associated with the Invaders since the Invaders left 241 Linden, Memphis.

23. EDWINA JEANETTE HARRELL

EDWINA is currently working at 883 Porter in RON IVY's Black Arcade and frequents the Hawaiian Isle, Memphis, associating with known BSA members.

24. CHARLES HARRINGTON

HARRINGTON is currently residing at 2075 Riles with his parents. He has not associated with active Invader members since his release from jail.

25. MARSHALL HOBSON - Docket # 22742 and 22743

HOBSON was indicted for forgery on August 8, 1969, and is currently out on bond awaiting trial on this charge. (Trial date not set.) The arrest of JOHN CHARLES SMITH severed HOBSON's relationship with the Invaders.

26. ERIC EMANUEL HOLMAN - Docket # 18167

HOLMAN is out on bond awaiting trial for larceny from a person. Trial date set for November 5, 1969. HOLMAN was last reported living in Chicago, Illinois.

27. RONALD LEWIS IVY

IVY is operating the Black Arcade at 883 Porter and has actively supported members of the BSA in their past efforts at Memphis State University.

28. PAUL EDWARD JACOCKS

JACOCKS has not participated in any Invader activities recently. He resides at 1515 Swift, Memphis.

29. NATHANIEL JOHNSON - Docket # 16534

JOHNSON is now free after serving six months in the Shelby County Penal Farm for attempted felony. He is not participating in any Invader activities.

30. CAMALAA JONES

CAMALAA was last reported working in the Black Arcade at 300 East McLemore, Memphis.

31. ANDERSON JORDAN, JR., also known as Stroll

JORDAN admittedly quit the Invaders during the early part of 1969 because of a dispute over his authority as "The Enforcer."

32. RAYMOND LUCIUS LEE

LEE is reportedly participating at Forrest City, Arkansas, and is an active member of the Invaders.

33. THEODORE GEORGE MANUEL - Docket # 14112

MANUEL was indicted on October 17, 1967, for violation of Section 59-504 of the Tennessee Code Annotated. He made bond, but he failed to appear in Court for his hearing on December 6, 1968, and his trial was reset for May 19, 1969. Again he failed to appear and by orders of the Court his bond was forfeited and a Plures Capias was issued for his arrest.

34. EDDIE MARSHALL

MARSHALL has no pending criminal charges and no longer associates with the Invaders.

35. AARON McFARLAND

McFARLAND is employed at Methodist Hospital, Memphis. He has had no involvement in any militant activities since his employment at Methodist.

36. OREE McKENZIE

McKENZIE is out on appeal bond for assault to murder. Since his appeal bond was made, McKENZIE has not been involved in any Invader activities, but he was incarcerated recently for loitering. He is presently living at 262 West Essex, Memphis.

37. WINSTON LEE MIDDLETON - Docket # 19576

MIDDLETON was sentenced on June 2, 1969, and is currently serving a one-year term for attempted arson, at the Shelby County Penal Farm.

38. ROBERT EARL MILES

MILES has no State charges pending against him at this time. He was last reported active in the Invaders in Forrest City, Arkansas; however, he did not accompany LANCE " Sweet Willie Wine" WATSON on the "March Against Fear" through Arkansas.

39. JUANITA MILLER

JUANITA is currently working for the War on Poverty Committee and has not been involved in any protests in recent months.

40. FRANK MITCHELL

MITCHELL is residing at 1681 Silver, Memphis. He is not actively participating in the Invader organization, but does frequent the Hawaiian Isle.

41. MICHAEL EUGENE MOUNTAIN

MOUNTAIN is now in the U. S. Army and is no longer associated with the Invaders.

42. THOMAS NELSON -- Docket # 16231

NELSON is residing in southeast Memphis and is actively participating in all black-oriented demonstrations. NELSON has recently visited Forrest City, Arkansas, in support of LANCE WATSON.

43. ARTHUR NORWOOD

NORWOOD is now serving five years in the State Penitentiary at Nashville, Tennessee, for assault to murder and attempt to commit robbery.

44. TONY EARL PARKS

PARKS began serving a six-months sentence at the Shelby County Penal Farm for larceny and receiving stolen property, June 13, 1969, but is now out of jail.

45. CHARLES PENNINGTON - Docket # 22326

PENNINGTON is out on a $10,000 bond for the charge of first degree burglary, indicted on August 19, 1969. PENNINGTON is basically a criminal and not a protestor.

46. HENRY MORRIS PENNINGTON - Docket # 22884

PENNINGTON is out on $500 bond on the charge of carrying a pistol.

47. JAMES ELMO PHILLIPS

PHILLIPS is now serving a five-year sentence for armed robbery.

48. DONALD PIGFORD

PIGFORD currently associates with the Invaders and attends Memphis State University.

49. JAMES OLIVER POPE, III - Docket # 22793

POPE was indicted for rape on August 12, 1969. No bond was set and the trial date is not set. POPE was in the Shelby County Jail as of August 25, 1969.

50. GEORGE PRYOR - Docket # 20491

PRYOR has not been connected with any protest movement since he was released from jail regarding the "Jump & Grab incident." He was last seen in the Vance-Hernando area of Memphis.

51. WILLIE FRED RANKINS - Docket # 17745

RANKINS was indicted on August 9, 1968, for burglary and larceny from a person. His trial was set for December 6, 1968, and he is now serving one year in the Shelby County Penal Farm.

52. CECELIA RIVERS

CECELIA was last reported connected with the Invaders at 271 Vance. She is now living on Barksdale, south of Parkway.

53. WILLIE LEWIS RUBIN - Docket # 19697

RUBIN's case of auto theft was "nolle prosequi" on June 9, 1969. RUBIN was last reported living at 1969 Philsar and working for SCLC.

54. M. C. SCALES - Docket # 22079

SCALES was indicted on June 20, 1969, for forgery and uttering documents, having previously made bond on May 7, 1969. The trial date has not been set.

55. WILLIE JAMES SHAW - Docket # 18308

SHAW was last reported in the Beale-Hernando area of Memphis. He forfeited bond in Criminal Court for vagrancy on April 30, 1969.

56. CACHEATUH SMITH

CACHEATUH resides at 251 West Persons, Memphis. She is involved romantically with LANCE WATSON. She went to West Memphis, Arkansas, recently to see WATSON off on his march.

57. JOHN BURRELL SMITH

SMITH was sentenced on January 31, 1969, and given five years in the penitentiary for trespassing on a public school, inciting students to leave school, and participating in a riot. His sentence was appealed on May 13, 1969, and he is presently out on an appeal bond.

58. JOHN CHARLES SMITH - Docket # 22819 and 22820

SMITH is in the Shelby County Jail awaiting trial on two counts of assault to murder (first degree). He was indicted by the Shelby County Grand Jury on August 15, 1969.

59. PEGGY ANN SMITH

PEGGY is in Forrest City, Arkansas, Jail for armed robbery.

60. WOMAX STEVENSON

STEVENSON is out on appeal bond for assault to murder and shooting from ambush. He has not been connected with any protests since his release.

61. EDDIE MORRIS TATE

TATE is now in jail in Forrest City, Arkansas, for armed robbery.

62. BRENDA TAYLOR - Docket # 20341

BRENDA was sentenced to 10 days in the Shelby County Penal Farm on February 27, 1969, for reckless driving. She was last connected with the Invaders in May of 1967.

63. CLIFFORD LEWIS TAYLOR - Docket # 18227, 20461, 20462

TAYLOR was last reported hanging around the Beale-Fourth Street area of Memphis. TAYLOR has three criminal cases pending: assault and battery, shoplifting, and carrying a pistol.

64. CAROLINE THOMAS

CAROLINE is out on bond regarding the "Jump & Grab incident," trial set for November 3, 1969. She has limited contact with the Invaders.

65. LANCE WATSON, also known as "Sweet Willie Wine"

WATSON was last reported in Forrest City, Arkansas, on August 27, 1969, where he is engaging in demonstrations. He is still the head of the Invaders.

66. ROBERT WEBSTER

WEBSTER was last reported living in the Glenview area (Netherwood and Willett) of Memphis. He has had limited contact with the Invaders since he was last released from jail.

67. LOUIS WELCH

WELCH was last reported in Atlanta, Georgia. WELCH left Memphis on or about April 4, 1969.

68. GWENDOLYN WHITE

GWENDOLYN is participating in demonstrations in Forrest City, Arkansas, along with other Invader members.

69. ARCHIE WILLIAMS - Docket # 17140

WILLIAMS has no cases pending. He associates with the Invaders, although he has not been very active.

70. JOHN GARY WILLIAMS - Docket # 19918

WILLIAMS is out on bond awaiting the Supreme Court's decision on his conviction regarding assault to murder and shooting from ambush. While out on bond, WILLIAMS had been convicted of an attempt to commit a felony.

71. ROBERT LEE WILSON

WILSON is serving a three-year sentence in the State Penitentiary for third degree burglary.

72. SHERMAN YATES

YATES revolves between the Black Arcade, Invaders, and Forrest City, Arkansas.

73. SHIRLEY YOUNG

SHIRLEY is working at Methodist Hospital. She has had very little contact with the Invaders since she married AARON McFARLAND.

On August 25, 1969, BENNIE W. LANGS, also known as Bennie W. Lang, 1205 Azalia, Apartment 8, Memphis, and WILBERT JAMES, JR., also known as T. C., "Top Cat," 256 Pauline Circle West, Apartment H, Memphis, advised representatives of the FBI that they participated in portions of the August 20, 1969, to August 24, 1969, Invaders march from West Memphis, Arkansas, to Little Rock, Arkansas, and that to their knowledge Invader activity in Arkansas was terminated unless local Arkansas Negroes requested their return to that state. They pointed out that the Invaders are currently inactive, have no meeting place, no funds, and that they have no more than 10 or 11 people who could be considered Invaders. They named the Invaders as YERBY JOSEPH CALHOUN, LANCE WATSON, CACHEATUH UNDRE SMITH, PEGGY ANN SMITH, JOHNNY HARPER, plus two from Forrest City, Arkansas, whose names they could not recall, and themselves. LANGS said he considers himself to be Coordinator of the Invaders, and JAMES said he considers himself to be a "Minister of Defense" of the Invaders.

II. ACTIVITIES

During the period February 26, 1969, to June 4, 1969, meetings, conferences, and affairs of the Invaders were held at Invaders headquarters, 271 Vance Street, Memphis, Tennessee, on the dates listed below:

February 26, 1969
February 27, 1969
March 1, 1969
March 3, 1969
March 4, 1969

March 5, 1969
March 7, 1969
March 12, 1969
March 13, 1969
March 19, 1969
March 20, 1969
March 21, 1969
March 29, 1969
March 30, 1969
April 2, 1969
April 7, 1969
April 9, 1969
April 11, 1969
April 12, 1969
April 14, 1969
April 15, 1969
April 16, 1969
April 18, 1969
April 20, 1969
May 7, 1969
May 13, 1969
May 15, 1969
May 16, 1969
May 19, 1969
May 20, 1969
May 23, 1969
May 26, 1969
June 3, 1969
June 4, 1969

[redacted] 6/5/69)

During the period February 27, 1969, to March 28, 1969, WARRELL McCOLLOUGH, a Patrolman currently assigned to the Intelligence Bureau, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, who was undercover operator for the Memphis Police Department during the period February, 1968, through March, 1969, in the Invaders and the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), advised his superiors at the Memphis Police Department that meetings, conferences, and affairs of the Invaders were held at Invaders headquarters, 271 Vance Street, Memphis, Tennessee, on the dates listed below:

February 26, 1969
March 3, 1969
March 4, 1969
March 6, 1969

March 8, 1969
March 9, 1969
March 11, 1969
March 12, 1969
March 13, 1969
March 18, 1969
March 20, 1969
March 25, 1969
March 27, 1969

(A characterization of the SDS is set forth in the Appendix pages.)

On March 26, 1969, a meeting of representatives from the Southern Christian Leadership Conference (SCLC) and the Community on the Move for Equality (COME) met at the Minimum Salary Building, 280 Hernando Street, Memphis, Tennessee. MAURICE LEWIS, DONALD PIGFORD, and ROY TURKS, representing the Invaders, were requested to leave the room where the meeting was held. The meeting was held to discuss the forthcoming march commemorating the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING on April 4, 1969. After the Invaders left the room, they held a conference to decide how to deal with the problem. It was decided that CHARLES CABBAGE would approach representatives of the SCLC and COME with the request that the Invaders be dealt with by these two groups in good faith. They also decided that if CABBAGE's request was not appropriately received, one of the members of the Invaders would meet with Dr. RALPH ABERNATHY of the SCLC and point out to him that if the meeting was not held involving the Invaders, SCLC, and COME prior to April 4, 1969, there would be no march on that date commemorating the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING. At a meeting later that day at 271 Vance Street, several members of the Invaders were present. CHARLES CABBAGE stated that the Invaders have two problems to deal with, first they must deal with getting these 35 Invaders out of jail, and second they must be included in the planning and coordinating of the commemorating march honoring Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING.

[redacted] 4/2/69)

It was learned that on March 26, 1969, representatives of the SCLC and the COME met at the Minimum Salary Building, 280 Hernando, Memphis. It was also learned that representatives of the Invaders were not invited to this meeting. When the

meeting broke up, a heated argument started between representatives of the Invaders and those who attended the meeting because the Invaders were not included. CHARLES CABRALE reportedly told Dr. RALPH ABERNATHY, when ABERNATHY told him he had 10 minutes in which he could talk with him, that "We need to talk more than 10 minutes because the April 4, 1969, march will require more than 10 minutes of your time. If you don't have more time than that, we don't have anything to talk about and may as well forget it. In the past Invaders have been used by different groups and we are not going to be used this time. We have 35 people in jail because of what was done this time last year. Some of the people even face five or six years jail sentences, and you people have not done one thing about this." DONALD PIGFORD, a member of the Invaders, told Dr. ABERNATHY, "We want a conference with you and we don't want to talk to any of the other people here. We must talk to you before April 4, 1969. We know you have to leave today, so anytime you are ready to talk to us, we are ready, and this will be at 271 Vance." PIGFORD also told Dr. ABERNATHY that if ABERNATHY did not meet with the Invaders before April 4, 1969, there would not be a march commemorating the death of Dr. MARTIN LUTHER KING on April 4, 1969.

(ME T-2, 3/27/69)

The April 28, 1969, issue of the "Memphis Commercial Appeal," a daily newspaper published in Memphis, Tennessee, contained an article on page seven written by ART GILLIAM entitled "Invaders Tactics: Are They Justifiable." According to this article, a lot of news has been devoted to a group of young blacks known as the Invaders, and the impression has been created that this group consists essentially of criminal elements. To support this contention, the Police Department and the news media point to the great number of arrests and convictions which have involved members of the Invaders and those statistics are undeniable. According to this article, the story of the Invaders goes much deeper than statistics in the matter, whether or not they are criminals. BEN H. BERRY, who was serving a jail term for the ambush shooting of a police officer, was quoted as stating, "I first joined the group during the sanitation strike. It was then a social group and our purpose was to upgrade the black community by becoming involved. One of our first major projects was to open a day care center so that mothers who had to work would have a decent place to leave their children." According to the article, Miss EDWINA HASRELL associated closely with the

Invaders, prior to being sentenced to a jail term which was to expire in August, 1969. She attended college for three years and became associated with the Invaders out of a desire to be actively involved in the struggle for civil rights. She reported that the purpose of the Invaders was to upgrade the black community and work in such a way as to be effective in the society. She stated that the press was intent on blaming the Invaders for everything that happened, and that the activities of the Invaders were vastly distorted.

Attorney RUSSELL X. THOMPSON, who has served as legal counsel for some of the accused members of the Invaders, was quoted as saying, "Their members are highly motivated and highly sensitive, and they have a moral objective. Their justifiable over-all objective is to initiate a sense of pride in their race and to seek involvement in the power structure. Yet they are without the understanding of this generation, and it is easy for them to lean in the wrong direction. But one should not attempt to accomplish a moral end by immoral means."

In May, 1969, CACHEATCH SMITH, Secretary of the Invaders, was heard to comment that there had been a split in the Invader organization and that LANCE WATSON was at 241 Linden working at a dashiki shop as a salesman. WATSON was heard to comment that EDDIE TATE had been to the office of H. RALPH JACKSON, Minimum Salary Building, 280 Hernando Street, Memphis, and told JACKSON that he and ARCHIE WILLIAMS, M. C. CLARK, MARY HOLMAN, ETHEL TAYLOR, WILBERT JAMES, ROBERT MILES, and two other unknown male Negroes had no place to stay or food to eat. WATSON commented that he put the above-named people out of 271 Vance Street, Invaders headquarters, because they would not work.

(ME T-2, 5/23/69)

It was learned in early June, 1969, that the Invaders were in a state of confusion. They had no finances and remained at their headquarters, 271 Vance Street, Memphis, on a day-to-day basis because they were two months in arrears in their rent. They had no real leadership, and LANCE "Sweet Willie Wine" WATSON had apparently become somewhat disenchanted with his position of leadership with the Invaders and had been spending most of his time in an effort to make some money by taking orders for dashikis, an Afro-type shirt which were being hand-made by a group of Negro women at 241 Linden Street, Memphis.

WATSON and another Invader, JOHNNIE LEE FRIERSON, a former Memphis State University student, had reportedly also written the lyrics to a song, "I've Got a Feeling," recorded by the STAX Recording Company, Memphis, Tennessee, by one "OLLIE and the Nightingales", a singing group.

(ME T-1, 6/2/69,
ME T-2, 6/3/69)

Since June 17, 1969, LANCE WATSON has been in Forrest City, Arkansas, assisting a Negro minister, Rev. CAIO BROOKS, and his "Committee for Peaceful Coexistence" in a drive to desegregate store employment in Forrest City and to gain a series of demands relating to better schools, criminal justice, and related demands. This group is now promoting a mule train march from West Memphis, Arkansas, to Little Rock, Arkansas, to commence August 20, 1969, culminating in the arrival at the Arkansas State Capitol on August 24, 1969. WATSON has had several young so-called Invaders, EDDIE MORRIS, JR., also known as Eddie Tate; WILBERT JAMES, JR.; JOE Y. CALHOUN; and SHERMAN YATES, with him. WATSON's trials in Shelby County Criminal Court on charges of carrying a pistol and extortion at the Jump and Grab Grocery, both in the fall of 1968, have been postponed until September, 1969. WATSON seems to have lost his influence in Memphis, Tennessee.

(ME T-1, 8/25/69;
ME T-2, 8/25/69;
ME T-8, 8/25/69)

(A characterization of the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence is set forth in the Appendix pages.)

On July 31, 1969, MARRELL McCOLLOUGH, supra, advised that for all practical purposes the Invaders have ceased to exist, they have no meeting place, former members have dispersed, they have printed no literature in several months, they have no known connections with any outside groups, and they have no known arsenal of weapons. He stated that the Invaders have never been an effective group. He stated that at the outset they intimidated the black community by bragadocio and extortive-type tactics, but now the black community realizes the Invaders are basically phony, criminally intent, and petty in their actions, and most Negro adults will now "stand up" to any Invader.

MELVIN SMITH, until recently the Minister of Defense of the Invaders, claimed he is through with the Invaders and that he does not like LANCE WATSON. He has been working with Paulist Priests at St. Patricks Church and with Father Bertrand High School Priests in teaching teenage children civic affairs under a grant made by the Memphis War on Poverty Committee (WOPC), financed by the Office of Economic Opportunity (OEO). SMITH still, however, says that he is an individual black militant and black revolutionary.

(ME T-1, 8/25/69;
ME T-2, 8/25/69)

On July 31, 1969, Lieutenant E. H. ARKIN, Intelligence Bureau, Memphis Police Department, Memphis, Tennessee, advised that JOHN CHARLES SMITH, a recent Assistant Minister of Defense of the Invaders, was arrested in Chicago, Illinois, by the Memphis Bonding Company and returned to Memphis, Tennessee, on July 30, 1969, where he was confined to the Shelby County Jail awaiting trial for his June 4, 1969, shooting of FREDDIE PRUITT and ROSETTA WEBB. His trial date has not been set.

On August 19, 1969, LANCE WATSON held a press conference in Memphis, Tennessee, wherein he discussed the cancellation by Rev. CATO BROOKS, Forrest City, Arkansas, of a scheduled August 20, 1969, civil rights march from West Memphis, Arkansas, to Little Rock, Arkansas. WATSON reported that BROOKS had promised Arkansas Governor WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER to postpone his scheduled "mule train" march. WATSON stated that he had prepared his own march to leave West Memphis, Arkansas, at 8:00 a.m. on August 20, 1969. He promised to have a one-mule-train plus 200 volunteer marchers who would walk to Little Rock via Forrest City and Hazen, Arkansas. WATSON reported he had heard that the John Birch Society had stated the march would not leave Forrest City or Hazen, Arkansas, but the group was determined to survive. When asked by a reporter if this meant his group would be armed, he obliquely replied, "We will survive and defend ourselves if necessary." WATSON elaborated that his group of Invaders "is now underground" but will re-surface upon termination of the scheduled march, return to Memphis to become active in politics and economics, and set up an "Operation Breakfast Program."

(ME T-1, 8/19/69)

As of August 19, 1969, there has been no indication that any of the Invaders have recently been armed.

(ME T-1, 8/19/69)

On August 25, 1969, ME T-1 and Patrolman MARRELL McCOLLOUGH, supra, advised that WATSON was bluffing when he reported that the Invaders had gone underground. These sources advised that actually the Invaders now exist in name only, a creature of the news media, which keeps their name alive by unctuously and patronizingly giving publicity to every utterance and action, no matter how fatuous or trivial, of WATSON.

On the morning of August 20, 1969, LANCE WATSON, accompanied by two Memphis Invaders, JENNY BAKER and JERRY JOSEPH CALHOUN, plus two Forrest City, Arkansas, Negro teenagers, left West Memphis, Arkansas, on foot en route to Little Rock, Arkansas. The marchers were accompanied by a Ford station wagon driven by a Forrest City white woman, PEGGY VITTITOW, who had been supporting WATSON since June 17, 1969, by a Memphis Invader, WILBERT JAMES, JR. The marchers were joined by Invader JOE LEE BURNS, JR., also known as King Jewell, at Lehi, Arkansas, at noon on August 20, 1969.

(ME T-1, 8/20/69)

The August 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25, 1969, issues of the Memphis "Commercial Appeal," a daily newspaper published in Memphis, Tennessee, gave coverage to "Watson's march," reporting on the progress without incident to Little Rock, Arkansas, culminating August 24, 1969, at the State Capitol. This newspaper gave considerable publicity to the fact that the small town of Hazen, Arkansas, "over-reacted" by arming its citizens in anticipation of the march passing through Hazen.

On August 25, 1969, ME T-1 advised that two dissident Democrat Party Negro politicians in Memphis, CORNELIA CRENSHAW and Negro realtor D. W. PICKETT, capitalized on the "march" publicity by joining the march on Saturday, August 23, 1969. The Memphis "Commercial Appeal," issue of August 25, 1969, quoted CRENSHAW as saying she "came here because I wanted to put this man Watson in the same position as Martin Luther King." PICKETT praised WATSON for his leadership.

On August 25, 1969, ME T-1 advised that the Memphis "Commercial Appeal" "played into Watson's hands" by building him completely out of proportion, when in its Sunday, August 24, 1969, edition it adulated WATSON. In a story by its Little Rock bureau correspondent, JOHN BENNETT, BENNETT claimed that Governor WINTHROP ROCKEFELLER had in effect bought off CATO BROOKS but that he "did not deter Lance 'Sweet Willie Wine' Watson who marched across the delta land crying a deal had been made with the Governor and those two ministers from Forrest City, the Rev. Cato Brooks and the Rev. J. F. Cooley." The story stated "Mr. Watson, so-called Prime Minister of the Invaders, a militant group from Memphis, organized march supporters and virtually led the Rev. Mr. Brooks by the hand. He had crossed the Mississippi River into foreign land for a chance at new militant recognition and suddenly found, to his disappointment, that the Forrest City brother had left him for the Governor. He said he had no other choice but to march. He said he would never deal with the Governor. He marched in the face of Hazen where everyone expected him to really get a rising. At the mansion (Governor's Mansion) Mr. Watson was excluded, the man who had done the march organizing in Arkansas."

The story added, "The Rev. Mr. Brooks is feeling pretty good that he accomplished so much. He avoided incident, got promises from Arkansas, made a break-through in civil rights, shook town apathy, and got himself known among Arkansas Negroes. For all its criticism, Mr. Watson can take a lot of credit. Despite his regalia, colorful garb and saucy language, Mr. Watson proved the real behind-the-scene catalyst. While Forrest City ministers got the credit, Mr. Watson the scorn, everyone forgot the organization efforts, fruitless as they were, of Mr. Watson. Mr. Watson just went marching."

A story captioned "Watson is Held at March's Finish" appeared in the August 25, 1969, issue of the Memphis "Commercial Appeal." According to this story, "Foot-sore Negroes ended the 130-mile march against fear Sunday with a challenge that there is nothing to fear but fear itself. The four-day walk across east Arkansas ended at the State Capitol steps, where 300 gathered to hear songs, prayers, and a call for black unity in Arkansas. A lot has been accomplished, Watson said, 'If you need anything, call us.' Lance 'Sweet Willie Wine' Watson, so-called Prime Minister, Invaders, was lauded as the hero for leading the march. He told Negroes, most of them from Little Rock, that his march helped change attitudes in Arkansas."

On August 25, 1969, ME T-1, ME T-2, ME T-8, and ME T-10 advised that only time will tell whether the publicity derived by WATSON during his march will cause any resurrection of Invader activity in Memphis or whether WATSON, now a mass media-created hero in Arkansas, will move or to other endeavors in Arkansas or elsewhere.

III. CONNECTIONS WITH OTHER BLACK NATIONALIST ORGANIZATIONS

On April 6, 1969, a meeting of the Black Panther Party was held in the Berkeley-Oakland, California, area. This meeting was attended by approximately 35 persons. The main speaker, who came to the meeting with BOBBY SEALE, the national Black Panther Party Chairman, was from Memphis, Tennessee. This individual, name not known at the time, was 5 feet 10 inches tall, weighed about 170 pounds, had a well-trimmed mustache, was light complexioned, a neat dresser, wore a ring on the little finger of his left hand, and was an intelligent speaker. This individual spoke of his organization in Memphis called "The Invaders" and said it was about the same as the Black Panther Party. He said that the white power structure throughout the country would have to be torn down, that some of their main targets would be trains, oil foundries, and large shopping areas. He said that a Black Panther Party member, if arrested, should never admit being a member and deny any connections with the Black Panther Party because the newspapers would publicize the arrest. During the course of the meeting, someone stated that BOBBY SEALE and this unknown individual from Memphis were going to Springfield, Massachusetts, reason and time for the trip not known.

(ME T-3, 4/9/69)

On April 21, 1969, it was ascertained through one of the persons in attendance at the meeting of the Black Panther Party in the Berkeley-Oakland, California, area on April 6, 1969, that the alleged Memphian who spoke at this meeting was LOUIS WELCH, 271 Vanness Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee.

(ME T-3, 4/21/69)

On May 2, 1969, ME T-3 identified a photograph of LOUIS WELCH as being identical with the individual in attendance at the Black Panther Party meeting in Oakland, California, on April 6, 1969.

Continued contacts with MARSELL McCOLLOUGH, supra, ME T-2, ME T-1, and ME T-4, during the period April 15, 1969, through May 16, 1969, developed no information indicating that LOUIS WELCH made a trip to the San Francisco, California, area, particularly over the Easter week end, April 6, 1969. These sources pointed out that LOUIS WELCH had in the recent past been, and was then currently, serving as Co-Chairman of the Invaders and that they knew of no formal connection between the Black Panther Party and the Invaders. ME T-2 reported that he personally observed LOUIS WELCH in Memphis, Tennessee, on the evening of April 7, 1969. This source reported that WELCH was not working at the time because he had then recently injured his finger at the Midwest Dairy Farms, ice cream plant, at Belvedere, Memphis, Tennessee, where he had been employed intermittently for the past several months.

ME T-1, ME T-2, and ME T-4 also reported that they had not known of WELCH to make any other trips out of Memphis, Tennessee, and had never heard him mention the state of Massachusetts.

(A characterization of the Black Panther Party is set forth in the Appendix section of this report.)

On May 31, 1969, MELVIN SMITH, Minister of African Culture and History, of the Invaders, was walking around the downtown area of Memphis, Tennessee, with four male Negroes, whom he identified as being from Chicago, Illinois, and being connected with the Black Panther Party in Chicago. MELVIN SMITH had quite a discussion with this group regarding the problem of organizing black militants in Memphis, indicating there was a lack of organization and a lack of unity. One Rev. HENRY LOGAN STARKS, male Negro, Pastor of the St. James AME Church, Memphis, told this group of alleged Black Panthers that the Black Panthers were not wanted in Memphis, Tennessee, by the masses of the Negro race.

(ME T-1, 6/1/69)

One of the so-called Black Panthers indicated that the group would leave Memphis on June 1, 1969, and that they were merely looking over the town with regard to the possibility of organizing in Memphis.

(ME T-1, 6/1/69)

Four individuals who claimed to be members of the Black Panther Party were first in Memphis as early as May 30, 1969, according to information furnished by LANCE "SWEET WILLIE WINE" WATSON. WATSON claimed that this group had pulled their guns and shot at a police helicopter but that WINE told them to stop because the police might put him back in jail.

(ME T-2, 6/2/69)

On June 2, 1969, Lieutenant E. H. ARKIN, supra, advised that he had not been able to make any determination that anyone had recently shot at a police helicopter.

On May 31, 1969, the four alleged members of the Black Panther Party were in contact with some of the members of the Invaders. One of these individuals indicated that the group would leave Memphis on June 1, 1969, but might return at a later date. They left Invaders headquarters on June 1, 1969, on foot and have not been seen since.

(ME T-2, 6/2/69)

On June 1, 1969, ME T-1 advised that he had no specific proof that this group were actually members of the Black Panther Party.

On June 2, 1969, ME T-2 advised that he had no specific proof that this group were members of the Black Panther Party. ME T-2 pointed out that many visiting Negroes claim that they are associated with some nationally known black power group in order to impress people.

On August 1, 1969, RUFUS HENDERSON, a friend of LOUIS WELCH, commented that he had heard that LOUIS WELCH had since May, 1969, been to Atlanta, Georgia; Los Angeles, California; and Chicago, Illinois, and that at one time WELCH hoped to form an alliance or coalition of Invaders with the Black Egyptians of East St. Louis, Illinois; the Blackstone Rangers of Chicago, Illinois; and the Black Panther Party, all militant black power groups. WELCH was unsuccessful because none of the above-named organizations would have anything to do with the Invaders, and in fact the presence of the Invaders in Memphis was the primary reason the Black Panther Party did not come into the Memphis area. Members of the Black Panther Party felt that the Invaders were too open with their operation, that too many members

were arrested on various criminal charges. HENDERSON commented that these groups soon learned that the Invaders had no money and were primarily interested in "conning" money from them.

(ME 1-2, 8/4/69)

By communication dated August 21, 1969, the Chicago FBI Division advised that a check of all logical sources in the Black Power Party in Chicago, plus a check with the Chicago Police Department, Intelligence Unit, failed to develop any information indicating that any Black Power Party members had been to Memphis or had been in contact with Memphians, including the Invaders.

The National Council of Churches held its winter Executive Board meeting at the Peabody Hotel, Memphis, Tennessee, during the approximate period January 23, 1969, through January 26, 1969. During this time members of the Invaders made contact with certain officials at this conference, demanding that the National Council of Churches finance them with as much as $59,000 for a summer program to be administered by COBY VERNON SMITH, male Negro, 2240 Brown Avenue, Memphis, Tennessee, a student at Southwestern College, who during recent months has served as the prime adviser and liaison man of the Invaders with the white community.

(ME T-1, 1/29/69)

On January 29, 1969, MARRELL McCOLLOUGH, supra, advised there had been some contacts on the part of COBY VERNON SMITH with the Inter-religious Foundation for Community Organizations (IFCO), particularly with one RENNIE FREEMAN, allegedly of Detroit, Michigan. McCOLLOUGH knew nothing further concerning FREEMAN or IFCO.

On April 17, 1969, MELVIN SMITH, Minister of Defense and Minister of African Culture and History of the Invaders, and SHIRLEY YOUNG, a member of the Invaders, commented that COBY VERNON SMITH and LOUIS WELCH had somehow received two plane tickets from Memphis to Detroit, Michigan, and had left on April 16, 1969, to go to Detroit, Michigan, to see RENNIE FREEMAN of IFCO.

(ME T-2, 4/17/69)

On April 20, 1969, it was determined that COBY VERNON SMITH and LOUIS WELCH had returned from Detroit, Michigan, where they attempted to obtain money for the local Invaders organization from IFCO and that they were due to return to Detroit on or about April 24, 1969.

(ME 1-2, 4/23/69)

On April 23, 1969, CHARLES LAVERNE CABRITE, one of the original founders of the Invaders, commented that one E. A. SMITH, allegedly of IFCO, was staying at the Lorraine Motel, 406 Mulberry, Memphis, and that on April 20, 1969, COBY VERNON SMITH and MAURICE LEWIS, who was then recently active in the Invaders, went to the Lorraine Motel to see E. A. SMITH and asked that IFCO provide the Invaders with $79,000.

E. A. SMITH indicated that Rev. H. RALPH JACKSON, Director of the Minimum Salary Office of the AME Church, with offices at 276 Hernando, Memphis, Tennessee, and Treasurer of a Memphis ministerial group which had supported various black militant causes, known as the Community on the Move for Equality (COME), had applied for $79,000 from IFCO and that the money would be granted by IFCO only if it could be equally divided among various Memphis civil rights and black power groups, such as the Black Knights, Inc., a group headquartered in North Memphis headed by WARREN LEWIS, primarily aimed at neighborhood community projects, more employment for Negroes, and projects of a constructive nature; COME; plus the Invaders.

E. A. SMITH gave COBY SMITH a list of names of prominent people connected with IFCO, whom COBY SMITH could feel free to contact in seeking said funds.

(ME 1-2, 4/23/69)

It was learned on April 24, 1969, that COBY VERNON SMITH had called RENNIE FREEMAN of IFCO in Detroit; however, FREEMAN was not in. COBY SMITH talked with FREEMAN's alleged secretary, who indicated that plane tickets had been mailed to SMITH for a forthcoming trip by him to Detroit. COBY SMITH indicated that IFCO had been having people come into Detroit, Michigan, nearly every week end from various black power groups throughout the United States.

(ME 1-2, 4/24/69)

On May 2, 1969, ME T-2 advised that it is believed that COBY VERNON SMITH did make a trip to Detroit, Michigan, and was probably accompanied by LOUIS WELCH. This source reported that SMITH had made no further comments regarding the trip, and it is not known whether he received any money or any specific promises of money from IFCO. ME T-2 believes that the meeting which COBY SMITH, and possibly LOUIS WELCH, attended was the meeting of the National Black Economic Development Conference at Detroit's Wayne State University, described in Jet Magazine, issue of May 15, 1969, on page 20, which had been called by IFCO for the purpose of rallying more church-related organizations around the growing concept of community development. This article of Jet indicated that the session ended in a frustrating debate over who should control the ghetto economy in the future--black capitalists or mixed socialism; that the Rev. LUCIOUS WALKER, JR., IFCO Executive Director, had explained that the meeting was called "to bring black persons together to develop economic concepts that reach beyond the current fad of black capitalism and envelope the total community." The article stated that the black militants obscured the results of hard-working delegates, most of whom represented black-controlled church foundations and governmental agencies, and that as a result the black militants came forth with a manifesto demanding $500,000,000 in "reparations from racists, Christian churches and Jewish synagogues," and that the manifesto was read by JAMES FOREMAN and his supporters. ME T-2 advised that JAMES FOREMAN is the former First Executive Secretary of the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee (SNCC).

(A characterization of the SNCC is set forth in the Appendix section of this report.)

On May 15, 1969, MAURELL McCOLLOUGH, supra; ME T-1; and ME T-2 advised that there have been no indications that the Invaders or any other groups or individuals in Memphis, Tennessee, have made any efforts to implement the demands outlined and propounded by JAMES FOREMAN at the Detroit meeting. These sources added that in their opinion COBY VERNON SMITH is a "con man," and while he is most militant to the point of being obscenely offensive and violence-prone in many of his statements, primarily he is interested in his own self-interests, feeding not only his ego but enhancing his material wealth, and they feel he is attempting to bulldoze some foundation or group into granting a lot of money to Invaders, which he (COBY SMITH) hopes to convert to his own use if humanly possible.

On June 17, 1969, one Rev. CATO BROOKS of the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence, also known as Cooley's Teenage Athletic Club (Forrest City, Arkansas, Negro youth club), was in Memphis, Tennessee, in an effort to stimulate news coverage and local support for his movement in Forrest City, Arkansas. He had engaged LANCE "SWEET WILLIE WINE" WATSON, Chairman of the Invaders, a Memphis black power group, to come to Forrest City to deliver a speech at a local church on the night of June 17, 1969, apparently to prepare for a Negro demonstration of an unknown nature to occur in Forrest City on June 18, 1969, and possibly thereafter.

(ME T-1, 6/17/69)

On the night of June 17, 1969, the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence and its juvenile counterpart, the Forrest City Negro Youth Group, held a regular meeting at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Forrest City, Arkansas. The meeting was presided over by Rev. J. F. COOLEY, Pastor of the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, and Rev. CATO BROOKS, and the principal speaker was LANCE WATSON, Prime Minister of the Invaders, a militant black power group with headquarters at Memphis, Tennessee. The meeting was attended by approximately 200 people. WATSON was brought to Forrest City by Rev. CATO BROOKS, co-chairman of the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence. It was decided at the meeting to begin picketing in downtown Forrest City on June 18, 1969.

(ME T-5, 6/18/69)

On June 18, 1969, approximately 100 persons, including LANCE WATSON and about 20 Invaders, were observed picketing downtown business establishments in Forrest City, Arkansas. The pickets carried placards which encouraged customers not to trade at the stores picketed because they practiced racial discrimination in their hiring policies.

(ME T-5, 6/18/69)

LANCE "SWEET WILLIE WINE" WATSON was the featured speaker at a meeting of the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, Forrest City, Arkansas, on the evening of June 17, 1969. He bragged as to how he had led a "takeover" at LeMoyne-Owen College in Memphis on November 25 and 26, 1968, which resulted in the students getting all of their demands which they made on the school administration. He told of his

participation in the Memphis City Hospital strike in the fall of 1968 and stated that his advice and counsel had been sought by various national black power leaders. WATSON did not advocate violence but instead advocated a militant persistent series of boycotts and picketing, which he said would bring real pressure on the white man. He made one reference to weapons and guns, stating in effect that "what you have in your house is your business, no one can tell you how or when to use your gun."

At a workshop meeting after the regular meeting, WATSON emphasized that the black community should use elderly retired people, as well as youth, due to the fact that they were not working and would have time to participate on a daily, continued, and sustained basis, and that the group needed to recruit more pickets and more bodies to participate in future demonstrations.

(ME T-1, 6/18/69)

LANCE WATSON, along with approximately 50 other persons, including 20 members of the Invaders, was observed participating in picketing in downtown Forrest City, Arkansas, on June 20, 1969. It was learned that WATSON was brought to Forrest City by Rev. CATO BROOKS to participate in the picketing; however, the arrangements for WATSON and the Invaders to come to Forrest City were made by Mrs. PEGGY VITTITOW, a white housewife residing in Forrest City, who is active in the civil rights movement. Mrs. VITTITOW gave WATSON money to help defray the expenses of the Invaders while in Forrest City.

(ME T-6, 6/20/69)

It was learned on June 10, 1969, that someone from Forrest City, Arkansas, had contacted LANCE WATSON, head of the Invaders, Memphis, Tennessee, and that WATSON, DONALD PIGFORD, SHERMAN YATES, and RAYMOND (LNU) had gone to Forrest City on the night of June 10, 1969.

(ME T-7, 6/11/69)

On the evening of June 19, 1969, several Invaders from Memphis, including one BOBBY SMITH, JOE LEE BURNS, JR., one JIMMY (LNU), RAYMOND LEE, LEE's girlfriend (name not known), and MICHAEL JEROME STARKS, appeared at Forrest City, Arkansas, at a workshop held in the Negro park to discuss

current boycott of merchants in Forrest City, sponsored by the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence. LANCE "SWEET WILLIE WINE" WATSON, Chairman of the Invaders, was there, along with Invader EDDIE MORRIS, JR., also known as Eddie Tate. MORRIS, in briefing some 14 to 16 unknown black Forrest City youths, urged them to be militant but not to allow the white folks to taunt them into anger which would result in their arrest. RAYMOND LEE urged Forrest City black citizens to raise money and to recruit additional pickets. Some of those present stated they hoped to bring outside influence to assist in pressuring Forrest City authorities and mentioned the possibility of bringing in the 100 VISTA workers and such well-known personalities as Rev. R. RALPH ABERNATHY, President of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

(ME 1-1, 6/19/69)

On June 26, 1969, MARVIN GUNN, Chief of Police, Forrest City, Arkansas, Police Department, advised that RAYMOND LUCIOUS LEE, also known as "Breeze," 1518 Willis Street, Memphis, Tennessee, was arrested on June 21, 1969, as a result of picketing, and was charged with disturbing the peace. Chief GUNN stated that LEE was a member of the Invaders.

On June 27, 1969, Chief MARVIN GUNN, supra, advised that one EDDIE TATE was arrested by the St. Francis County, Arkansas, Sheriff, CLARENCE MONTGOMERY, while picketing in downtown Forrest City, Arkansas, and was charged with disorderly conduct and vagrancy. TATE was released the same date on a $200 bond and was to appear in Forrest City Municipal Court on June 30, 1969.

The July 1, 1969, issue of the Memphis "Commercial Appeal," supra, reported that St. Francis County, Arkansas, Sheriff, CLARENCE MONTGOMERY, announced on Monday, June 30, 1969, that he had deputized 70 men to be put into action should any emergency situation break out in this racially tense town of Forrest City. According to the article, Sheriff MONTGOMERY stated, "With an influx of these out-of-town hoodlums, we feel that the appointments are a sign of preparedness for the rigid enforcement of the law." Sheriff MONTGOMERY claimed that the men had been specially trained to handle any major disturbances. The article further states, "The out-of-towners Sheriff MONTGOMERY referred to include a number of Invaders, a militant Memphis Negro group being led by LANCE 'SWEET WILLIE WINE' WATSON." In announcing the mobilization of the deputies, authorities

noted the lengthy arrest record of WATSON, who has convictions in Memphis, Tennessee, ranging from carrying a dangerous weapon to shoplifting, burglary, and grand larceny. According to the article, the Invaders were invited to Forrest City by a local group named the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence, a group which had been picketing downtown stores in search of equal rights and increased Negro representation on appointive boards in the city.

On June 21, 1969, some of the members of the Invaders had been attempting to find transportation to Forrest City, Arkansas, to join LANCE WATSON, Chairman of the Invaders, who had spent most of the week ending June 21, 1969, in Forrest City assisting in the Negro boycotts and demonstrations sponsored by the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence, Forrest City, Arkansas. Some of those indicating a desire to go to Forrest City were TONELE "GAWALA" JONES, JOE LEE BURNS, JR., JIMMY (LNU), and RAYMOND LEE. CACHEATUH SMITH, an Invader, who has served as secretary of the organization, indicated that she had heard from LANCE WATSON, who told her that the National Guard had been called into Forrest City and that he anticipated being arrested and being charged with "inciting a riot."

(ME T-1, 6/21/69)

It was learned on June 26, 1969, that the following members of the Invaders had recently participated in demonstrations at Forrest City, Arkansas:

EDDIE MORRIS, JR., also known as Eddie Tate
PEGGY ANN SMITH, MORRIS' girlfriend
MICHAEL JEROME STARKS
LANCE "SWEET WILLIE WINE" WATSON
JOE LEE BURNS, JR., also known as King Jewell
RAYMOND L. LEE, and his girlfriend, known as SHIRLEY KNOX

(ME T-1, 6/26/69)

It was learned on June 30, 1969, that an associate of the Invaders, ANITA MILLER, also known as Juanita Miller; CACHEATUH SMITH, WATSON's girlfriend; and SHIRLEY KNOX, a girlfriend of RAYMOND LEE, recently were in Forrest City, and they commented that the demonstration in Forrest City on June 28, 1969, was small.

(ME T-1, 6/30/69)

As of June 9, 1969, the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence, Forrest City, Arkansas, was continuing its picketing of downtown business houses in Forrest City. In addition, Rev. BROOKS and Rev. COOLEY, assisted by LANCE WATSON, were planning a mule train march in August, 1969, from West Memphis, Arkansas, to Little Rock, Arkansas. The purpose of this march was reported to be to demonstrate and dramatize the plight of the Negro in eastern Arkansas and to obtain publicity and support for the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence in its movement for equal rights for Negroes in Forrest City and the eastern Arkansas area.

(ME T-5, 7/9/69)

On July 14, 1969, and July 15, 1969, LANCE WATSON, Chairman of the Invaders, and Rev. CLIO BROOKS, leader of the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence, Forrest City, Arkansas, were in Memphis, Tennessee. They were attempting to obtain financial and physical support and to locate wagons and mules to be used later in August, 1969, for a publicity-seeking "mule train" trip from Forrest City, Arkansas, to Little Rock, Arkansas, sponsored by the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence.

(ME T-1, 7/18/69)

It was learned in mid-July, 1969, that no one in Memphis, Tennessee, appeared to be showing any interest in becoming involved in the Forrest City activities of Rev. BROOKS' group; that WATSON has apparently outlived his usefulness and effectiveness as a black power leader in Memphis; that the adult groups such as Local 1733, American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees, and the Community on the Move for Equality, which in the past have given financial assistance, bail money, and adult support to the Invaders, have apparently become disenchanted with them.

(ME T-1, 7/21/69)
(ME T-8, 7/21/69)
(ME T-2, 7/21/69)

On July 28, 1969, Chief of Police MARVIN GUNN, supra, advised that picketing of downtown business houses by the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence is continuing in Forrest City. He reported that most of the pickets seem to have lost interest, and only three or four pickets are seen on the streets at any one time. Chief GUNN stated that members

of the Invaders, including JAYCE WATSON, are in and out of Forrest City. He advised that WATSON and Rev. CATO BROOKS have been travelling extensively in the past two or three weeks to various cities in eastern Arkansas attempting to obtain recruits and gain support for the mule train march from West Memphis, Arkansas, to Little Rock, Arkansas, which is scheduled for August 20-24, 1969. Chief GUNN stated that according to the information he had received, they have not been very successful in recruiting persons to make this march.

On August 20, 1969, Captain W. A. TUDOR, Arkansas State Police, Little Rock, Arkansas, advised that five persons, all Negro males, departed from West Memphis, Arkansas, along U. S. Highway 70, marching to Little Rock, Arkansas. The marchers were led by JAYCE WATSON, Prime Minister of the Invaders, a militant black power group with headquarters at Memphis, Tennessee. Captain TUDOR advised that WATSON labeled this march as a "walk against fear" and stated that the march is to dramatize the plight of the Negro in eastern Arkansas and to prove that a black person in Arkansas could walk any place he wanted to.

On August 24, 1969, Lieutenant DAVID BENTLEY, Little Rock Police Department, Little Rock, Arkansas, advised that on August 24, 1969, about 75 marchers, led by WATSON, resumed their march at North Little Rock, Arkansas, at 10:45 a.m. and marched to the Capitol Building in Little Rock, arriving there about 12:50 p.m., with 100 marchers. The marchers and others, totaling about 200, gathered on the Capitol steps, where short speeches were made by about 11 persons, most of whom were from Forrest City, Arkansas. They generally complained of poverty and discrimination in eastern Arkansas. Following the speeches, the marchers disbanded, and according to Lieutenant BENTLEY, no incidents occurred and no arrests were made.

STUDENTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC SOCIETY

A source has advised that the Students for a Democratic Society (SDS), as it is known today, came into being at a founding convention held at Port Huron, Michigan, in June, 1962. From an initial ideological posture of "participatory democracy," the current line of the national leadership reveals an adherence to Marxism-Leninism. Michael Klensky, National Secretary, in March, 1969, called for the building of a revolutionary Marxist-Leninist movement. The program of SDS has moved from involvement in civil rights struggles to an anti-Vietnam war position and finally to its present advocacy of an anti-imperialist line, linking up the oppressed peoples of Asia, Africa, and Latin America with the black liberation movement in the United States. China, Vietnam and Cuba are regarded as countries which are leading the worldwide struggles against United States imperialism. On the other hand, SDS regards the Soviet Union as an imperialist power and does not support the policies of that country.

SDS maintains a national office in Room 206, 1608 West Madison Street, Chicago, Illinois. Its official paper, "New Left Notes," reflects the line of the national leadership and program adopted at meetings of the National Council and National Interim Committee (NIC). Three national officers and a NIC of eleven members are elected each year during a June National Convention.

SDS regional offices and university and college chapters elect delegates to National Council meetings wherein program and ideology are debated, but each region and chapter is autonomous in nature and is free to carry out independent policy and programs reflective of local conditions.

THE COMMITTEE FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE
AND THE FORREST CITY NEGRO YOUTH GROUP

On December 18, 1968, Chief MARVIN GUNN, Forrest City, Arkansas, Police Department, furnished a copy of a letter addressed to "Our Ministers and other important leaders of St. Francis County - From concerned Teen-agers." On the pages attached to the letter appeared the signatures of approximately 345 persons described in the letter as Negro teen-agers of St. Francis County, Arkansas. The letter, according to Chief GUNN, was distributed to all ministers in St. Francis County and the essence of the letter is that the Negro youths of the county were disappointed since the Negro leaders failed to support in the November 1968 General Election a Negro candidate for State Representative. Chief GUNN stated that the group was referring to Reverend J. F. COOLEY, who was a candidate for State Representative from St. Francis County and who was defeated by a white candidate.

The letter further stated that the Negro leaders were given 30 days to take some action regarding the racial situation in the community and if no action was taken, the group planned to take action on their own. It stated that "We are willing to fill up the jails and prisons if necessary. We plan to disturb your conscience to make things better for us."

The letter was signed by EVELYN GRIHIM, spokesman, P. O. Box 114, Madison, Arkansas.

Chief GUNN advised that this letter was disseminated by the Forrest City Negro Youth Group of which EVELYN GRIHIM is President and Reverend J. F. COOLEY is adult supervisor. He stated that the group was recently organized, apparently as a result of Reverend COOLEY being defeated in the above-mentioned election.

On March 20, 1969, Reverend J. F. COOLEY advised that he is the adult advisor of the Forrest City Negro Youth Group, which is composed of about 1,000 Negro teen-agers. He further advised that he is the county chairman, along with Reverend CATO BROOKS of Forrest City, of the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence, which is the adult counterpart of the Forrest City Negro Youth Group. This group has about 200 members made up of Negro adults in St. Francis County.

THE COMMITTEE FOR PEACEFUL COEXISTENCE
AND THE FORREST CITY NEGRO YOUTH GROUP

Reverend COOLEY advised on May 2, 1969, that he continues as sponsor of the Forrest City Negro Youth Group and co-chairman of the Committee for Peaceful Coexistence which meets every Tuesday night at the St. Andrews Presbyterian Church, where Reverend COOLEY is pastor. He stated that the objectives of the group are to promote and participate in civil rights activities, political activities, and to make the Negro community aware of its rights under the civil rights laws. Reverend COOLEY stated that he has never advocated violence or disrespect for law and order.

BLACK PANTHER PARTY

According to its official newspaper, the Black Panther Party (BPP) was started during December, 1966, in Oakland, California, to organize black people so they can take control of the life, politics, and the destiny of the black community. It was organized by Bobby George Seale, BPP Chairman, and Huey P. Newton, BPP Minister of Defense. Newton is presently serving a sentence of 2 to 15 years on a conviction of manslaughter in connection with the killing of an Oakland police officer.

The official newspaper, "The Black Panther," which further describes itself as the "Black Community News Service," states that the BPP advocates the use of guns and guerrilla tactics in its revolutionary program to end oppression of the black people. Residents of the black community are urged to arm themselves against the police who are consistently referred to in the publication as "pigs" who should be killed.

"The Black Panther" issue of September 7, 1968, contains an editorial by BPP Minister of Education, George Mason Murray, which ends with the following:

"Black men. Black people, colored persons of America, revolt everywhere! Arm yourselves. The only culture worth keeping is a revolutionary culture. Change. Freedom everywhere. Dynamite! Black Power. Use the gun. Kill the pigs everywhere."

Included in the introduction to an article appearing in the October 5, 1968, edition of "The Black Panther" is the statement, "...we will not dissent from American Government. We will overthrow it."

Issues of "The Black Panther" regularly contain quotations from the writings of Chairman MAO Tse-tung of the People's Republic of China and feature MAO's statement that "political power grows out of the barrel of a gun."

The national headquarters of the BPP is located at 3106 Shattuck Avenue, Berkeley, California. Branches have been established at various locations throughout the United States.

APPENDIX

STUDENT NONVIOLENT COORDINATING COMMITTEE

The Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC), headquartered at 360-362 Nelson Street, S. W., Atlanta, Georgia, is a nonmembership organization, which was born out of the sit-in movement that erupted across the South beginning in 1960.

Today SNCC identifies itself as an organization in the revolutionary vanguard. It advocates that to be successful it is necessary to develop a revolutionary ideology and revolutionary program.

According to SNCC the year 1967 marked a historic milestone in the struggle for the liberation of black people in the United States and the year that revolutionaries throughout the world began to understand more fully the impact of the black movement. SNCC declared that "liberation will come only when there is final destruction of this mad octopus--the capitalistic system of the United States with all its life-sucking tentacles of exploitation and racism that choke the people of Africa, Asia, and Latin America. The realities of black life, together with the recognition instilled in SNCC workers forced its members to further popularize the legitimacy of self-defense and rebellions when oppression became too great."

From May, 1966, until May, 1967, Stokely Carmichael was National Chairman of SNCC. As of July, 1968, Carmichael, resided in Washington, D. C., where he was affiliated with SNCC and active as temporary chairman of a black coalition group. In May, 1967, Carmichael was replaced by Hubert Geroid Brown, commonly known as H. Rap Brown, who served until June, 1968.

In June, 1968, at the Staff and Central Committee meeting of SNCC held in Atlanta, Georgia, it was decided to restructure the organization by equalization of responsibility by creating ten deputy or vice chairmanships. The primary purpose for this change is to take law enforcement pressure off any single individual.

APPENDIX

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

In Reply, Please Refer to File No.

Memphis, Tennessee
September [illegible], 1969

Title: INVESTIGATIVE

Character: RACIAL MATTERS

Reference: Report of SA [illegible] F. JOHNSON dated September 10, 1969, at Memphis, Tennessee, captioned as above

All sources (except those listed below) whose identities are concealed in referenced communication have furnished reliable information in the past.

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